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CP TEXT: THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PROPOSE [INSERT PLAN TEXT] IN THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USE OF OUTER SPACE. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO CLARIFY.

MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE: THE COUNTERPLAN IS COMPETITIVE THROUGH NET BENEFITS

CP SOLVENCY

1. Working with the UN committee can create transparency in US Policy

Marder 2008 (Eugene CDI Research Assistant. “How China’s Anti-Satellite Weapon Test Can Breathe New Life into Article IX of the Outer Space Treaty.” Center for defense information 2008 <http://www.cdi.org/pdfs/ChineseASATtest.pdf>)

This procedural hurdle may not stop tests altogether, but it will call for greater debris mitigation practices during tests. In forcing states to publicly declare their intentions for outer space, it may cause states to cancel their weaponization plans altogether. Consultation will also allow states to gather evidence that can later be used in liability claims—a prospect that may deter many states from conducting tests or launches that contribute to space junk. Moreover, once a nation condemns a breach of Article IX as illegal, they will be barred from doing the same in the face of international scrutiny. While the U.S. space policy shows a fear of being restrained, it is often best to tie oneself to the mast like Ulysses to avoid any ill-advised acts in the future.

Finally, the most valuable benefit of consultation procedures would be transparency and information-sharing between spacefaring states. Keeping fellow OST members in the know “helps reduce the threat of accidents and misunderstandings that could escalate into conflict” and “reduce[s] the paranoia that arises in climates of secrecy among competitive actors.”48 The greatest danger of placing weapons in space is the mistrust and insecurity that would arise in other nations. The Outer Space Treaty, in its preamble, states one of its goals to be “recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the progress of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.”49 The greatest injury to this globally averred ambition is an arms race in our common outer space. Article IX provides an effective device—international consultations—to dissuade potential space weaponizers from carrying out their plans. To maintain Article IX’s standing as valid international law, it must be insisted upon in all appropriate circumstances. The Chinese ASAT test of January 2007 was one such event. In deeming this test inappropriate, but not illegal, many nations missed their chance to assert the validity of Article IX. But the ship has not yet sailed, and states should reexamine the test before other nations follow suit. The objectives of the Outer Space treaty are as poignant now as ever; though the moon colonies it imagines may still be decades in the future, the specter of a weaponized space is a present threat.

2. The UN can solve with the agenda set out by the counterplan using the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Kelly 10 (Jim Kelly. “Support for UN Governance of Space Explains NASA Development Agenda.” July 7, 2010. President of Solidarity Center for Law and Justice, P.C., a public interest civil and human rights law firm based in Atlanta, Georgia. <http://www.globalgovernancewatch.org/spotlight_on_sovereignty/support-for-un-governance-of-space-explains-nasa-development-agenda>)

Furthering the link between outer space exploration and the UN development agenda, on December 10, 2009, at its sixty-fourth session, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution titled “International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space” (the “Resolution”). Among other things, the Resolution: 1. Urges States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their domestic law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation. 2. Notes that space science and technology and their applications could make important contributions to economic, social and cultural development and welfare. 3. Reiterates that the benefits of space technology and its applications should continue to be brought to the attention, in particular, of the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields and that the use of space technology should be promoted towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and for implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration. Likewise, the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (“COPUOS”) is promoting the linkage between outer space exploration and the UN development agenda. Established in 1959, COPUOS is responsible for reviewing the scope of international cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space; devising programs in this field to be undertaken under UN auspices; encouraging continued research and the dissemination of information in outer space matters; and studying legal problems arising from the exploration of outer space. One impediment to the UN’s pursuit of an outer space policy framework that balances space exploration with broader development goals is the fact that existing international outer space treaties do not address in detail the development applications of space exploration. At the forty-ninth session of the COPUOS Legal Subcommittee held in Vienna, Austria from March 22 to April 1, 2010, some delegations expressed the view that: A universal comprehensive convention governing the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space should be developed in a balanced manner with the aim of finding solutions for existing issues, giving legal binding status to the United Nations principles on outer space and supplementing provisions of the existing United Nations treaties on outer space.

Net Benefit- Multilateralism

A. US Space leadership is declining with the end of the Shuttle Program

**Klotz 7/5** (Irene Klotz, Reuters Staff Writer. “NASA shuttles' end stirs doubts about U.S. space program.” 7/5/11. <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/space/stories/nasa-shuttles-end-stirs-doubts-about-us-space-program>)

As the clock ticks down to this week's final space shuttle launch, there is a mounting sense of uncertainty about future U.S. dominance in space. If all goes according to plan, Friday morning's launch of shuttle Atlantis on a 12-day mission to the International Space Station will mark the end of an era in the U.S. manned spaceflight program. But veteran former astronauts say the space program is in "disarray" and fear the end of the shuttles could mean a permanent decline in U.S. space leadership as well. Even one senior NASA official voiced pointed criticism recently about what he described as "poor policy" and the lack of any coherent leadership from Washington.

B. US Space Policy and exploration is alienating other countries, causing unease and possible arms race

**Shixiu 2007** (Bao Shixiu is a senior fellow of military theory studies and international relations at the Institute for Military Thought Studies, Academy of Military Sciences of the PLA of China. He formerly served as director of the Institute. He recently was a visiting scholar at the Virginia Military Institute in the United States. “Deterrence Revisited: Outer Space” 2007. China Security, Winter 2007, World Security Institute. pp.2 – 11)

The NSP (U.S. National Space Policy) presents a number of challenges to China’s security environ- ment. First, it grants the United States with exclusive rights to space: the right to use any and all necessary means to ensure American security while at the same time denying adversaries access to space for “hostile purposes.” This sets up an inequitable environment of “haves” and “have-nots” in space, raising suspicion amongst nations. For instance, the NSP declares that U.S. space systems should be guaranteed safe passage over all countries without exception (such as “interference” by other countries, even when done for the purpose of safeguarding their sovereignty and their space integrity). With its signiﬁcant space assets and military space capabilities, this situation gives the United States an obvious and unfair strategic advantage in space. Second, it refutes international restrictions and undercuts potential international agree-ments that seek to constrain America’s use of space. This effectively undermines any potential initiatives put forth by the international community to control space weaponization– initiatives that China supports. This U.S. position leads the global community to suspect U.S. unilateralist intentions in space. Lastly, while the policy may not state it explicitly, a criti-cal examination of its contents suggest its intention to “dissuade and deter” other countries, including China, from possessing space capabilities that can challenge the United States in any way– a parameter that would effectively disallow China to possess even a minimum means of national defense in space. The resultant security environment in space is one with one set of rules for the United States and another set of rules for other nations. In such a context, only U.S. security concerns are taken into account with a result of the reinforcement of a zero-sum dynamic to which space is already prone and threatens to pressure others into a military space race.

C. Global War will result from US Unilateral use of space

**Zhang 2008** (Cynthia B. BA, Political Science, Rutgers College, 2003; JD Candidate, Rutgers School of Law. 2008. Rutgers Computer and Technology Law Journal. 34 Rutgers Computer & Tech. L.J. 422. Accessed on Lexus Nexis Academic May 2011.

States that the United States considers as potential adversaries would be taking a risk. The arms race thrives because of fear. When one arms and another chooses not to, the latter will be in a worse position than if it had responded in kind. Thus both sides become prisoners of each other and themselves. But the fear of this fourth best outcome in a pris-oner's dilemma n216 is unlikely to be realized. States can be shamed and pressured into compliance. n217 If an international consensus can be reached, the United States would be the pariah who stands for war, not peace. In such a scenario, it would be even less likely for the United States to abuse its space superiority. An International Moratorium - Racing Its Own Shadow. The quest for space domination is an expensive endeavor that creates no benefit to man-kind. The 2006 National Space Policy signals a crossroad. Will this be another instance of the lowest common denominator, in which loftier goals fall because a "majority" of one re-fuses to play along? Or will this be another opportunity lost, much like the chance to create a military-free outer space half a century ago? Cynics may argue that a total ban of military activities in space, even if it can attract international support, would be futile without the biggest player. That would be putting the fate of many states in the hands of one. Unfortunately, the new U.S. Space Policy applies a double standard that places U.S. national interests supreme, at the cost of international peace and stability. The purpose of a sanctuary is premised on the notion that the interest of mankind must prevail over the interest of any one state. Ironically, the original champion of that greater good now posi-tions itself to do the precise opposite. The ASAT test of January 2007 is but one indication of the [\*459] rekindling of a space arms race. Although officials may deny its existence, the trend of hyper-militarization of outer space is clear. The United States, while seeking to guarantee its national security, has, through its pol-icy changes, made the world less secure. The ultimate irony may be that the country which had originally advocated for an arms control regime in outer space may also be the first to transform that same arena into a battleground. After fifty years of space hegemony, the United States now finds it difficult to "project a peaceful image regarding space activities." n218 It is naive to think that the world would abide by the U.S. definition of "cooperative" measure or "peaceful use" or "interference". It is equally naive to think that United States can wield its supreme space power to dictate one set of lax rules for itself and another strict interpretation of the international legal framework for the rest of the world. In a game of make-belief demons, **one fool is enough, there is no need for 160 more.**

Solvency- General

UN-COPOUS has more work to do but has proven solvency in a wide variety of space missions.

**United Nations 04.** (United Nations. Fifty-ninth General Assembly: Fourth Committee. 9th Meeting (AM). “Benefits from space exploration must be shared: among all nations, fourth committee is told. Developing Countries Said to Need Help to Take Full Advantage.” 10/13/2004. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/gaspd291.doc.htm>)

He said the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space had done important work to implement the decisions of the UNISPACE III conference and the Vienna Declaration. He noted, however, that work on many priority areas was far from completed and should be continued. He said he greatly appreciated the work done by the Committee on the issues of the use of nuclear energy in space and space debris. The space debris mitigation guidelines and principles were very useful, but the task of preventing space pollution required solutions of a broad range of problems. Regarding the use of nuclear energy in space, he said it would be helpful to use the experience of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its experts. He said remote sensing of the Earth should be strengthened in order to assist in the task of monitoring the environment and predicting and mitigating natural disasters. International cooperation in that area might result in the creation of a global system to detect natural disasters using space technologies.

COPUOS can solve for many legal problems and new issues, like the plan

Galloway 09 (Eilene, NASA Advisory Committee, worked with UN-COPUOS and created International institute of Space Law. “International Astronautical Federation Interview with Eilene Galloway”. 2009/03/31 <http://www.iafastro.com/index.html?title=Interview_with_Eilene_Galloway>)

You almost single-handedly founded the discipline of space law through your work with UN-COPUOS and later helped set up the IISL. Why is space law important?

It is not accurate to give me so much credit for space law because many forces brought it into existence.

The motive of all nations was to produce a system whereby all countries benefitted from the peaceful uses of outer space while avoiding war.

So many profitable activities have developed in outer space that war has been avoided.

February 2009 saw the first collision between two satellites and the future will include the private exploitation of space. Will legislation such as the Outer Space Treaty need to be adapted for changing circumstances?

The 1967 Outer Space Treaty is not legislation but is a treaty. The Treaty can be interpreted but should not be amended for every set of new problems.

We have the UN-COPUOS which is staffed and funded to take care of applying legal remedies when new issues arise.

Multilateral Cooperation on Space Critical to success, unilateral appoaches fail to address needs

**United Nations 04.** (United Nations. Fifty-ninth General Assembly: Fourth Committee. 9th Meeting (AM). “Benefits from space exploration must be shared: among all nations, fourth committee is told. Developing Countries Said to Need Help to Take Full Advantage.” 10/13/2004. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/gaspd291.doc.htm>)

As the Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization) continued its consideration of the peaceful uses of outer space, speakers this morning stressed that exploration of space and application of space technologies should be for the benefit of all mankind, and that the military use of outer space would undermine international peace and security. The representative of the United States said he was encouraged by the substantial progress that had been made in considering the spin-off benefits of space exploration, on strengthening the role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in ensuring that space was maintained for peaceful purposes, and on showing how space activities could enrich daily life. In the course of 2004, multi-year work plans, action teams and reports by other groups had formed a flexible approach that had addressed a wide range of topics, including nuclear power sources in space and space-system-based telemedicine. The representative of the Russian Federation said military uses of outer space would undermine peaceful uses, and also the maintenance of international peace and security. There was a need to develop an international convention on space law. He said such a convention could result in the development of instruments on the delineation and definition of outer space, monitoring of space debris and protection of intellectual property. Many speakers from developing countries underlined the benefits space technologies could have on the prediction and mitigation of natural disasters and on the management of natural resources, especially of water. They noted, however, that developing countries often did not have the capacity to benefit from those technologies and needed assistance. Regional cooperation in that regard was stressed. The representative of Jamaica said that, following the devastating spate of hurricanes in her region, she had a particular interest in the implementation of an integrated, space-based natural disaster management system. The representative of Libya, a country recommended for membership of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, called for a system that would allow all countries to participate in the benefits of space-related technologies at reasonable costs -- especially countries that needed them the most. Cuba’s representative, saying that telemedicine, enhancement of space application in the field of agriculture and solar-Earth physics were some of the particularly promising areas of space activity for the good of all of humanity, warned that international cooperation in outer space could be neither privatized by developed States nor reduced to the entitlement of those nations. The representatives of Viet Nam, Ecuador, Thailand, Japan, Nigeria and Brazil (on behalf of Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)) also spoke. The Committee will meet again tomorrow, Thursday 14 October, at 10 a.m. to begin its consideration of “Effects of atomic radiation”.

UN is the world spokes-agency with Aliens

MacFarquhar 10 (NEIL MacFARQUHAR. “U.N. Weighs How to Answer Any Knock on Earth's Door.” The New York Times October 9, 2010 Saturday. LexisNexis.)

UNITED NATIONS -- There is no United Nations special envoy for space aliens, let's get that straight from the outset, nor even an official designated to pick up the phone should one call. It is true, however, that a United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs sits in Vienna. (No, it has nothing to do with amorous astronauts, either.) Its task consists basically of monitoring or refereeing cosmic matters -- space debris, for example, or maintaining a list of about 3,000 objects sent hurtling into orbit in the past roughly 50 years. Until this week, one could argue that with the exception of the scientific community, the office was more obscure than outer space itself. But it has been thrust into the limelight by a scientific conference in Britain whose panels included space-related topics like ''Calling ET, or Not Even Answering the Phone?'' and ''Extraterrestrial Life and Arising Political Issues for the U.N. Agenda.'' The idea, basically, is that one day, maybe one day soon, some manner of life or maybe a signal will materialize from another galaxy far, far away. How should earthlings react? Might, for example, the United Nations be designated the spokesman for the entire planet if Darth Vader comes to call. The conference organizers totally dismissed that latter possibility. ''It is not the little green man in the flying saucer -- that is the wrong image,'' said an organizer, Martin Dominik, a physicist at the University of St. Andrews. What is meant, he explained, were microbes, or perhaps an electronic signal. ''There could be interaction between life on our planet and life elsewhere so how do we deal with that,'' Mr. Dominik said, warming to the topic. What if the microbes are harmful, for example, or the signal hostile? ''The question is should we send messages into outer space or not?'' Mr. Dominik added. ''Is this dangerous? Should we make ourselves visible to extraterrestrial life or not? If they know we are here, do they want to destroy us, will they help us, do we gain something from that? These are all open questions.'' The issue becomes more pressing as knowledge of other planetary systems expands and radio telescopes can beam ever more powerful signals into the void. The United Nations could play a valuable role, Mr. Dominik and others noted, in preventing a single nation, or perhaps, the American military from hogging the dance card of the first alien, even if it is a microbe.

The UN has multiple agencies with 54 member states.

Sadah 2011 (Eligar Sadah, PhD President of Astroconsulting International, Research Associate with the center for Space Studies at the University of Colorado, editor of Astropolitics. “Politics of Space.” Found in “The Politics of Space; A Survey.” Routledge. 3-29)

The UN agencies that oversee specific space issues include: international Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); International Telecommunications Union (ITU); and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). UNESCO makes use of space applications and has become more involved in space issues in recent years.3 These organizations are all Specialized Agencies, defined as autonomous organizations working with the UN and each other through the co-ordinating machinery of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) at the Inter-Secretariat level and through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at the intergovernmental.4 ECOSOC assists the General Assembly in promoting international economic and social co-operation and development. ECOSOC has 54 members, all of whom are policy coherent to co-ordinate the overlapping functions of the UN’s subsidiary bodies through its information gathering and advising of member nations.

The COPUOS solves better than privatization or unilateral action.

**United Nations 04.** (United Nations. Fifty-ninth General Assembly: Fourth Committee. 9th Meeting (AM). “Benefits from space exploration must be shared: among all nations, fourth committee is told. Developing Countries Said to Need Help to Take Full Advantage.” 10/13/2004. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/gaspd291.doc.htm>)

RODNEY LOPEZ (Cuba) said that remote sensing and other space technologies had become indispensable in many areas of life. The last meeting of the outer space committee in Vienna highlighted, in particular, the importance of facilitating the access of developing countries to satellite image information at a reasonable cost and the use of the Internet for the mitigation of natural disasters. For those purposes and others, the space committee should be strengthened. Space was the common domain of humanity, he said, and should be used only for peaceful endeavours toward the betterment of all. Attention should be paid to minimizing the consequences of space debris and the collision of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources. It was also crucial to prevent an arms race in outer space. For that purpose, new legal mechanisms should be developed. Telemedicine, near-Earth objects, enhancement of agriculture and solar-Earth physics were some of the particularly promising areas of space activity for the good of all of humanity. The costs of small satellites for communications and monitoring should be reduced so that developing countries could better make use of their benefits. International cooperation in outer space could be neither privatized by developed States nor reduced to their entitlement. If the maximum use of such technologies were to be made, the space committee and the United Nations had big challenges ahead. To that end, he reiterated Cuba’s full willingness to cooperate in everything within its reach. STEPAN KUZMENKOV (Russian Federation) said he supported development of multilateral dialogue on the use and research of outer space, and also the activities of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. In that Committee, he said, the most useful discussions were held and consensus achieved, and he noted the fact that the existing international legal instruments on the subject were developed in that body. He said military uses of outer space would undermine peaceful uses and the maintenance of international peace and security. There was a need to develop an international convention on space law. Such a convention could result in development of instruments on the delineation and definition of outer space, monitoring of space debris and protection of intellectual property.

The COPUOS can solve internationally for a laundry list of problems on earth

**United Nations 04.** (United Nations. Fifty-ninth General Assembly: Fourth Committee. 9th Meeting (AM). “Benefits from space exploration must be shared: among all nations, fourth committee is told. Developing Countries Said to Need Help to Take Full Advantage.” 10/13/2004. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/gaspd291.doc.htm>)

She noted the important work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, in particular the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. The priority areas identified by that programme illustrated the practical and diverse ways in which space science and technology could be of significant assistance to mankind, and could address some of the key economic and social concerns of developing countries. Given the great potential of the Programme, she expressed hope that the donor community would respond positively to its call for additional contributions. Following the devastating spate of hurricanes in its region, she said Jamaica had a particular interest in the work of the space committee on the implementation of an integrated, space-based natural disaster management system. She welcomed any additional information on how such technologies could be made available to, and used effectively by, countries in the Caribbean region. As a non-member of the space committee, she also expressed interest in activities, such as conferences, training courses and workshops, which could involve Jamaica in such areas as natural resource management, environmental monitoring, tele-health and tele-education through space technologies. LUIS GALLEGOS CHIRIBOGA (Ecuador) said his country was an active member of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. The results of outer space research should be for the better quality of life for the people on the planet, especially those people from developing countries that were faced with poverty and natural disasters. He called for new implementations of space technologies that would promote health and education and strengthen the process of decision-making in the sphere of natural resources, in particular water resources. He said space research and technology should lead to sustained growth and to mitigation and prediction of natural disasters and should be used for peaceful purposes only. In that regard he highlighted the importance the Americas gave outer space in its correct peaceful and ethical utilization. The Committee should consider measures to promote regional and international cooperation. There was a desire among Latin American and Caribbean countries to make the Space Conference of the Americas into a recurrent event, within the framework of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, thereby contributing to combating poverty, environmental degradation and mitigating natural disasters. The priorities of the United Nations Programme of Applications of Space Technologies should also be for benefit of developing countries. However, the Programme depended on voluntary contributions of the international community, and he urged that there be sufficient financial means. The Committee had underlined the importance of capacity building for developing countries. His country was willing to strengthen international cooperation on a basis of equality and mutual benefit and supported establishing an international coordinating body for space activities in the area of natural disaster management. KHUNYING LAXANACHANTORN LAOHAPHAN (Thailand) said that, as an aspiring member of the space committee, her country supported the call for active participation of Member States in its work, since space science and technologies helped improve the lives of people throughout the world. Thailand had been active in the promotion of the peaceful uses of outer space at the bilateral, regional and international levels. Cooperation on space issues at the international level, she said, should be further steered towards assisting developing countries achieve the Millennium Development Goals. She outlined some of the benefits of space activities in education, telemedicine, water use and disaster mitigation. Given those benefits, she said, the work of the space committee should be publicized more widely, along with the United Nations observation of Space Week. Space activities, after all, had only become more important now that the success and sustainability of a country hinged largely on its ability to train scientists and engineers, and to apply sound, clean and cost-efficient technologies for security and economic prosperity.

The Moon Agreement puts the UN in a unique position to solve

Kelly 10 (Jim Kelly. “Support for UN Governance of Space Explains NASA Development Agenda.” July 7, 2010. President of Solidarity Center for Law and Justice, P.C., a public interest civil and human rights law firm based in Atlanta, Georgia. <http://www.globalgovernancewatch.org/spotlight_on_sovereignty/support-for-un-governance-of-space-explains-nasa-development-agenda>)

Since 1979, the United Nations has been encouraging nations to ratify an international treaty that places the UN at the center of the governance of outer space. The so- called “Moon Agreement” requires that all activities on the moon and other celestial bodies be carried out in accordance with international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations. The Agreement also provides that the exploration and use of outer space “shall be the province of all mankind and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development.” Recent actions taken by the administration of U.S. President Barack Obama indicate that it has decided to support the UN in its quest to govern outer space for the collective good of humanity. This explains the recent statement of NASA Administrator Charles Bolden that “NASA is not only a space exploration agency, but also an earth improvement agency.” Since being adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 5, 1979, only thirteen nations have ratified the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (the “Moon Agreement”). Thus far, the United States has not ratified the Moon Agreement. No doubt, the unenthusiastic reception received by the Moon Agreement is attributable to the remarkable UN power grab and collectivist provisions contained in it, including the following: 1. The provisions of the Agreement apply to the moon and all to other celestial bodies within the solar system, other than the earth. (Article 1) 2. All activities on the moon, including its exploration and use, must be carried out in accordance with international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations. (Article 2) 3. All States Parties to the Agreement must agree to use the moon exclusively for peaceful purposes. (Article 3) 4. States Parties are prohibited from placing in orbit around the moon objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction or from placing or using such weapons on or in the moon. (Article 3) 5. The Agreement prohibits all States Parties from establishing military bases, installations and fortifications on the moon; or from testing of any type of weapons and conducting military maneuvers on the moon. (Article 3) 6. The Agreement provides that the exploration and use of the moon is the province of all mankind and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development. It requires States Parties to pay due regard to the interests of present and future generations as well as to the need to promote higher standards of living and conditions of economic and social progress in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. (Article 4). 7. States Parties must report to other States Parties and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations those areas of the moon having special scientific interest in order that consideration may be given to the designation of such areas as international scientific preserves for which special protective arrangements are to be agreed upon in consultation with the competent bodies of the United Nations. (Article 7) 8. The Agreement provides that the moon and its natural resources are the common heritage of mankind; that the moon is not subject to national appropriation by any claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means; and that neither the surface nor the subsurface of the moon, nor any part thereof or national resources in place, shall become property of any State, international intergovernmental or non-governmental organization, national organization or non-governmental entity or of any natural person. (Article 11) 9. States Parties to the Agreement must adhere to an international regime to govern the exploitation of the natural resources of the moon. (Article 11) 10. The main purposes of the international regime shall include an equitable sharing by all States Parties in the benefits derived from those natural resources, whereby the interests and needs of the developing countries, as well as the efforts of those countries which have contributed either directly or indirectly to the exploration of the moon, shall be given special consideration. (Article 11) Thus, the Moon Agreement calls for the development and implementation of an “international regime” pursuant to which the UN will govern the exploration and use of the moon and other celestial bodies to serve its global development agenda. The pursuit of a development agenda relating to space exploration is receiving a lot of attention from the UN and developing countries. According to a report from a November 2009 United Nations/Islamic Republic of Iran workshop on space law that took place in Tehran, the theme of which was the “Role of international space law in the development and strengthening of international and regional cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space," the "policy and regulatory frameworks at the national, regional and international levels are of paramount importance to providing the necessary basis for States, particularly developing countries, to meet development goals and address challenges to sustainable development.” A main objective of the Tehran workshop was “to promote understanding, acceptance and implementation of the United Nations treaties and principles on outer space.” In conclusion, the workshop report “emphasized the need to continue promoting the universal acceptance of, and compliance with, the United Nations treaties on outer space.” The United States was one of only fifteen nations to send a delegation to the workshop. Immediately following the workshop, at the same Tehran venue, the UN held the second United Nations Expert Meeting on Promoting Education in Space Law.

COPUOS action is critical to help spur international space policy and development

Kelly 10 (Jim Kelly. “Support for UN Governance of Space Explains NASA Development Agenda.” July 7, 2010. President of Solidarity Center for Law and Justice, P.C., a public interest civil and human rights law firm based in Atlanta, Georgia. <http://www.globalgovernancewatch.org/spotlight_on_sovereignty/support-for-un-governance-of-space-explains-nasa-development-agenda>)

At the forty-ninth session, the Legal Subcommittee elected Ahmad Talebzadeh of the Islamic Republic of Iran as its new Chair for the period 2010-2011. In furtherance of a combined space exploration/economic and social development policy agenda, on April 7, 2010, the Chair of COPUOS for the period 2008-2009 submitted a working paper titled “Toward a United Nations space policy.” Among other things, the working paper asserts that: 1. Space is becoming a global commons offering a unique vantage point from which to address many challenges of the twenty-first century, such as monitoring and better understanding the phenomenon of climate change and global warming, as well as supporting sustainable development. 2. The changing global context for space activities is bringing into focus the need for the establishment of standards to guarantee the long-term sustainability of space activities. In particular, there is a need for increased coordination of United Nations activities to find holistic solutions to current and emerging global problems. 3. In order to preserve order in outer space, it is desirable that States and international organizations conduct their space activities under the coverage of UN treaties governing the exploration and uses of outer space. 4. The greater involvement of the UN could help to facilitate the legal harmonization of existing domestic and international legal frameworks for outer space activities and to provide a reference policy for nations planning to create their domestic space policies. 5. It is the role of the UN to foster space activities to promote the socio-economic development of developing countries.

# Solvency- Technology and Space Monitoring

COPUOS and Multilateral Cooperation is key for global problems through space technology

**United Nations 04.** (United Nations. Fifty-ninth General Assembly: Fourth Committee. 9th Meeting (AM). “Benefits from space exploration must be shared: among all nations, fourth committee is told. Developing Countries Said to Need Help to Take Full Advantage.” 10/13/2004. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/gaspd291.doc.htm>)

NGUYEN VAN BAO (Viet Nam) said that, since outer space was the common heritage of mankind, it must be used solely for peaceful purposes. Many achievements had been made in the exploration of outer space and space technologies, but a large number of developing countries had no access to advanced technologies and did not benefit from them. He therefore stressed the need to assist developing countries in reducing the existing gap between poor and rich in matters of outer space. He said that using outer space for military purposes posed a grave threat to the peaceful use of outer space. Such activities also had a negative impact on the process of international arms control and disarmament. It was necessary to negotiate a legally binding international instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to prohibit the deployment of weapons in outer space. He supported the recommendation that Libya and Thailand should become members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. IBRAHIM DABBASHI (Libya) praised the work of Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees during their 47th session. He said that great benefits were possible for all countries through space technologies. In Libya, in particular, such technologies could help develop vast underused resources. The Libyan centre for space monitoring addressed desertification, mapping and other areas in coordination with other countries, and the country was working to join in international space-related efforts. A system should be developed, he said, that would allow all countries to participate in the benefits of space-related technologies at reasonable costs -- especially countries that needed them the most. In addition, a legally-binding international instrument was needed to regulate outer space and to prevent the militarization of outer space, which would have grave consequences for humanity. Libya, he said, had always participated in the activities of the space committee as an observer. It was pleased at the recommendation that it should be a member and pledged its commitment to the committee’s goals and activities. JANICE MILLER (Jamaica) said that space-related technologies offered vast potential benefits for States, especially those countries, which did not have current ambitions to embark on their own space programmes. The outer space committee was an important multilateral forum in that regard. She praised the work of the Committee during its 47th session, in exploring ways to utilize the benefits of space science and technology.

Solvency- NASA has tech

UN has Technology and Proven Solvency

Hertzfeld 2011 (Henry R. Hertzfeld, PhD is a research Professor of Space Policy and international affairs at the Space Polciy Institute of George Washington University. “International Organizations in the Area of Civil Space Affairs.” Found in “The Politics of Space; A Survey.” Routledge. 120-142)

UNESCO (UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) aims to build peace through education, social and natural science, culture and communication. Two intergovernmental bodies govern UNESCO: the general conference convenes the Member States and Associate Members, together with observers from non-member states, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, once every two years. Every country has one vote in the General Conference, regardless of size of either the country or its contribution to the budget. The General Conference directs the policies and primary work of the organization. It sets the programs and budgets of UNESCO, in addition to electing the members of the executive board and the director general every four years. The Executive Board governs overall operations of ENESCO. The 58 members are elected by the general Conference in an effort to represent the cultural and geographic diversity of the organization as a whole. The Executive Board meets twice a year to carry out the specific assignments given to it by the General Conference. Since its founding in 1945 UNESCO has grown to encompass 193 Member states and 6 Associate Members, from every area in the world. 54

UNESCO makes use of spaceborne technologies and their applications to tackle a member of challenges, including natural resource management, environmental planning and Earth observation for global planning and Earth observation for global monitoring. UNESCO uses space-based technologies to implement distance learning and training, helping to break down educational isolation. UNESCO examines the ethics of space policy as well, the main objective being to ‘keep in mind the place of human beings and answer the anxieties of public opinion through an objective, independent and transparent approach.

Many UN affiated countries have the programs to go into space

Englund et al 7/5/11 (Will Englund;- Rama Lakshmi;- Joel Greenberg;- Keith Richburg;- Chico Harlan;- Michael Birnbaum. Washington Post. “Space programs in other nations.” Washington Post: SECTION: HEALTH; Pg. E04. LENGTH: 1164 words. 7/5/11. LexisNexis)

As the United States revamps its space program by retiring the shuttle, here's what other countries are doing or have planned. Russia Russia - or, to be exact, the Soviet Union - was the first country into space, and it doesn't intend to forget that. Its Soyuz spacecraft will now be the only means for Russians, Americans or anyone else to reach the international space station. The Russian space program, which suffered in the 1990s - remember the Mir space station, which was killed off in 2001 and allowed to fall into the sea? - is more robust today. But with a budget of about $3 billion, it still suffers from an aging workforce and struggles to hire talented staff. An ambitious plan to build a new launch centerin eastern Siberia (Russia currently uses the Baikonur site, in Kazakhstan) and introduce a new line of rockets and a new spacecraft by 2018 looks as though it may be delayed. Russia is also working on developing a reusable rocket, which it believes would make it the leader in space for the next 50 years. Some Russian scientists believe that spaceflight can't advance much further without new means of propulsion, most likely from nuclear-powered engines. Russia has always emphasized manned flight but is currently putting a satellite system in place to rival the GPS system. That effort has been hampered by the country's failure to launchthree satellites into orbit last year. After years of complaints about nepotism and inefficiency, the head of the Russian program, Anatoly Perminov, was recently pushed into retirement, just before the 50th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin'sflight as the first human in space. - Will Englund India India's 48-year-old space program reflects its growing global ambitions and is a source of enormous national prestige. India has a large number of remote-sensing satellites that predict the weather, collect data on natural disasters, track agricultural harvest patterns and run remote classrooms. In 2008, India launched its first unmanned moon mission, Chandrayaan-1, which catapulted the country into the big league. Spurred by China's growing space ambitions, India has focused on launching its first manned space mission in 2016. India's space program was dealt a setback in December, when a rocket carrying a communications satellite exploded soon after liftoff. This was India's second launch failure in 2010. In addition to its dream of a manned mission to the moon, India is planning an unmanned lunar mission, Chandrayaan-2, in 2013 with collaboration from the Russian space agency. This will pick up samples of soil and rocks for chemical analysis. - Rama Lakshmi Israel Israel, whose space technology has traditionally focused on launching satellites for military purposes, is redirecting its space program toward developing sophisticated communications satellites and micro-satellites with civilian uses. These nonmilitary purposes include Earth observation and other scientific research that would measure such phenomena as air pollution, precipitation and atmospheric disturbances. Israel is a leading country in the number of orbiting satellites (13), and it is the smallest country with its own launch capabilities. Israeli space program officials say they want to increasingly make technologies used for military purposes available for the civilian market. Israel is involved in several joint projects with other nations, among them a partnership with the French space agency to launch a mini-satellite carrying a multi-spectral camera for Earth observations. - Joel GreenbergChina In December, China broke ground on what will be a 3,000-acre space launch center and theme park on southern Hainan Island, directly modeled on the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. When the center opens in 2014, members of the public will be able to watch launches live from a viewing platform. After struggling in space for several years, experts said China this year appears poised for several significant breakthroughs that could cement its place as a leader in space exploration. Last October, China launched a robotic probe, the Chang'e 2 lunar orbiter, which completed its six months' worth of tasks this spring. Because it still had fuel in reserve, the craft left its moon orbit last month for further exploration in space. This summer, China is scheduled to launch an unmanned space module, called Tiangong 1, or Heavenly Palace, and later this year will send up another unmanned vehicle, Shenzhou, which will try to dock with it. These will be crucial first steps in China's goal to develop a manned space station. The Obama administration has often expressed a desire to cooperate with China in space, but the idea has found little traction. Much of China's space program falls under the control of the military; details - including its funding - are kept secret, and China has shown little sign of wanting to open up. Also, U.S. restrictions on some sensitive high-technology exports to China make space cooperation difficult. - Keith Richburg Japan Japan's space agency has one-tenth the budget of NASA, curtailing the program's broadest ambitions. It has no manned missions in its plans. But Japan has carved a niche by exploring the less heralded frontiers of space, sometimes with great results. Last year, the Hayabusa spacecraft, parachuting into the Australian outback, returned from a seven-year mission in which it collected surface samples from an asteroid. A series of technical problems nearly derailed the mission, but Hayabusa returned with particles that were several billion years old and potentially capable of providing clues about the formation of the solar system. That success has prompted Japan to plan to launch Hayabusa-2 in 2014. This time, the spacecraft would take a subsurface sample from an asteroid. There are also plans for satellites to monitor greenhouse gases. But Japan, attempting to recover from a triple disaster - an earthquake, a tsunami and a nuclear crisis - also faces major debt problems that create pressure to cut back spending, and the space program could face a further squeeze. - Chico Harlan

Uniqueness

Other countries are already in space and tension with the US is growing

Mann 11 (Simon Mann, Staff writer for Sunday Age. “Up, up and away.” Sunday Age (Melbourne, Australia) July 10, 2011 LexisNexis)

As Atlantis travels the heavens for the last time, Simon Mann reports on the future of US space travel. FOR Americans, bitten by the worst recession in decades, it is one of a succession of indignities that strikes at the heart of US supremacy: after this weekend, putting a man into space will mean shelling out $US51 million ($A47.5 million) for a seat on a Russian Soyuz space capsule. Yesterday, the space shuttle Atlantis pulled away from launch pad 39a at Cape Canaveral to pierce the skies above Florida's coastline for the last time, marking the end of a program that took the baton in the space race and ran with it for three decades. The 135th and final shuttle voyage - the 33rd by Atlantis since 1985 - comes as America shifts to a pragmatic new era of space exploration that matches its recent mantra of fiscal austerity. From here on, US astronauts will travel to Kazakhstan or South America for their ticket to the International Space Station aboard an ageing Soyuz, akin to trading down their business class seats for economy, as NASA's view of the heavens tilts towards new priorities. Low-earth travel is being farmed out to the private sector, which is not expected to be ready to fill the void for at least five years, while a new heavy-lift rocket becomes a focus of NASA's drawing board and the conduit to its deep space ambitions. There's vague talk of landing on a near-earth asteroid some time after 2020 and, beyond that, of sending humans to Mars. But a return to the moon - demanded by George Bush - is no longer on the agenda and the gap in all-American manned missions, together with no clear timetable and the improbability of the US financing a lone venture to the red planet, has meant that the world's most successful space program after Apollo is drawing to a close amid acrimony as much as it is to applause. Veterans of space exploration - first man on the moon Neil Armstrong and Jim Lovell, the commander of the ill-fated Apollo 13 - say NASA is in disarray. John Glenn, the first American to orbit the earth 49 years ago and who returned to space on the shuttle Discovery in 1998 at age 77, is also uneasy about the prospect of American astronauts hitching a ride with their erstwhile Russian rivals. "I don't think that's very seemly for the world's greatest space-faring nation," Glenn says, citing John F. Kennedy, whose audacious 1961 declaration to put a man on the moon "before this decade is out" was the starter gun for a spectacular Cold War rivalry. "John F. Kennedy would have been sorely disappointed," wrote Armstrong and Lovell recently in a commentary that lamented the suspension of NASA's manned space travel. But even Kennedy had concerns over whether the benefits of space exploration outweighed the costs, according to a recorded conversation with NASA administrator James Webb just two months before the president was assassinated in November 1963, and made public only recently. "This looks like a hell of a lot of dough," a nervous commander-in-chief told Webb, "when you can . . . learn most of what you want scientifically through instruments." Kennedy wondered whether landing a man on the moon was really just a "stunt" that wasn't "worth that many billions". That cost-benefit debate has plagued NASA ever since, reflected in its dwindling share of the US federal budget, amid waning public interest in what had seemingly become run-of-the-mill shuttle sorties. At the peak of the Apollo program, NASA's funding took $4.20 of every $100 spent by Washington, compared to just 50Â¢ today. Even so, in 2011, that amounts to more than $US18 billion, enough to propel such fantastic robotic missions as Juno, which takes off for Jupiter next month, arriving in 2016, and Dawn, which has already passed Mars en route to orbiting two asteroids, Ceres and Vesta - but nowhere near enough to put a man atop a new celestial body. Meanwhile, the James Webb space telescope, an anticipated successor to the Hubble, appears a likely victim of wrangling in Washington over America's yawning budget deficit. "We have a program. We have a budget. We have bipartisan support. We have a destination," NASA's deputy administrator, Lori Garver, told The Washington Post last week in response to the doubters. "We are just putting finer points on the [heavy-lift] rocket design." But economy and competition have caused policymakers to pivot, eschewing the romanticism of deep space for the realism of what can be achieved closer to earth as governments look to capitalise for military, civil and commercial purposes. Once, the US and Russia exclusively controlled the firmament but, as former NASA policy and planning administrator Eric Sterner observed bluntly: "Those days are over." "Nine countries, including India, Israel and Iran, have placed payloads in orbit," noted Sterner, a national security and aerospace consultant in Washington. "More than 50 nations design, deploy, own or operate satellites without US involvement. "China and Brazil, for example, have been co-developing earth observation satellites for years. Japan and China have mapped the moon in considerable detail. India launched its own robotic moon mission in 2008, with a follow-up mission planned in co-operation with Russia. "The US may still have the largest, most ambitious civil program in the world, but it no longer solely charts the world's future in space." The Economist magazine concluded: "Inner space is useful: outer space is history." And The New York Times observed in a shuttle valedictory: "Our technological energy is still immense, but it's increasingly turned inward - toward communication, life-extension and computer-generated adventure - rather than outward toward the stars." The turnaround, in fact, was cemented by Barack Obama 14 months ago after a review of the Bush-backed Constellation program of human exploration into deep space. As a tradeoff for ending Constellation, Obama extended funding for the International Space Station through to 2020, while contracting out billions of dollars of work on the replacement heavy-lift rocket and a reusable spacecraft that will eventually deliver astronauts and payloads to the station that remains a beacon for global co-operation. The revamp has cost 2000 shuttle program jobs already and a further 1800 will go once Atlantis returns to earth after 12 days; NASA expects many employees will be scooped up by private companies competing for those new contracts, as well as others. But last week, the President was still being called to account for his administration's broader aims. "Now that the space shuttle is gone, where does America stand in space exploration?" tweeted an inquirer to the President's historic Twitter session at the White House. Obama first offered plaudits for the shuttle - "It was an extraordinary accomplishment and we're very proud of the work that it did" - and then a promise: "We've set a goal to let's ultimately get to Mars. A good pit-stop is an asteroid . . . Let's start stretching the boundaries so we're not doing the same thing over and over again, but rather let's start thinking about what's the next horizon, what's the next frontier out there." Then, he offered a more sobering reality: "In order to do that, we're actually going to need some technological breakthroughs that we don't have yet." Obama's longer-term vision mirrors that of Kennedy, who floated the possibility of international co-operation in September 1963. Whether through a genuine desire for closer contact or fearing his moon-bid was over-reaching, Kennedy told the United Nations General Assembly that "in the field of space - there is room for new co-operation" with the Soviets. "I include among these possibilities a joint expedition to the moon." Obama speaks a similar language. Within a framework of international law and amid robust competition, his redrafted space policy talks of international partnerships for "mutually beneficial space activities". But America's obvious partner, China, remains more a focus of US suspicion and derision than a prospective collaborator, with disagreements on terra firma over economic policy an impediment to a union made in the heavens. The ambiguous drivers of Beijing's space program have long alarmed Washington, with Congress recently enacting laws prohibiting exports of high technology to China, despite Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao agreeing earlier this year to "deepen dialogue and exchanges" in the field of space. The White House believes, however, that it has constitutional authority to sidestep the Congressional restraints, with Obama's science adviser, John Holdren, elaborating on the administration's thinking before a House appropriations subcommittee in May. When it came to sending humans to Mars, for example, would it really make sense trying to go it alone, he asked. "Many of us, including the President, including myself, including [NASA Administrator Charles] Bolden, believe that it's not too soon to have preliminary conversations about what involving China in that sort of co-operation might entail," Holdren told the committee. "If China is going to be, by 2030, the biggest economy in the world . . . it could certainly be to our benefit to share the costs of such an expensive venture with them and with others." But the Republican-dominated committee, which characterised Beijing as a "fundamentally evil" regime, warned that any collaboration would violate US law. "What concerns me most about the Chinese space program is that, unlike the US, it is being led by the People's Liberation Army," responded Virginia Republican Frank Wolf. "There is no reason to believe that the PLA's space program will be any more benign than the PLA's recent military posture." Though well behind the US, Beijing is pushing an aggressive program to put an unmanned craft on the moon by 2013 and humans by 2020. It also aims to have its own space station orbiting Earth by as early as 2020. More immediately, China is launching a global navigational system for the Asia-Pacific region as a forerunner to delivering the satellite service globally in a direct challenge to America's global positioning system, technologies as vital for waging war as much as they are for managing traffic. Though Beijing's vaulting ambition rankles with some in Congress, Alanna Krolikowski, of George Washington University's Space Policy Institute, told the May hearing: "As China invests in and derives greater benefit from space, it will acquire the same stake in creating a predictable, stable, safe and sustainable space environment that the US . . . and other countries already share." China's space ambitions "are about prestige and about security and having a voice on the international stage", says Ben Baseley-Walker, of the Secure World Foundation, which advocates for the peaceful development of space. He says the interest among many nations is opening myriad partnership possibilities. "The US is no longer the one-stop shop if you want to get into space. There are other options, and I think that has shifted the power balance in how things are done. It's no longer the Americans and the Russians saying, 'This is the way it has to be'. It's more nuanced than that and it's very much in a state of flux." For NASA, the most difficult manoeuvre ahead won't be the one that decouples Atlantis from the space station and returns the craft and its four astronauts to Earth later this month. After 30 years and 135 missions costing an average of $US1 billion each, during which shuttles circumnavigated the globe almost 21,000 times and travelled 750 million kilometres, and after the loss of the Challenger and Columbia shuttles and 14 astronauts, NASA's leaders face the challenge of convincing Americans that they can keep the US at the forefront in a race to the next frontier. Even without a replacement spacecraft, insists administrator Bolden, NASA nevertheless plans to fly astronauts to the moon, asteroids and Mars. "The debate is not if we will explore, but how we'll do it," he said in Washington last week. "Not if there will be human spaceflight, but the right path to the next generation of systems." Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for? Triumph and tragedy: the space shuttle progam 1981 April 12 NASA launches the first space shuttle, Columbia. 1983 April 4 The second space shuttle, Challenger, is launched. June 19 Sally Ride becomes the first American woman in space on Challenger's second mission. August 30 Guion Bluford becomes the first African-American in space. 1984 February 3 Astronaut Bruce McCandless becomes the first man to take an untethered space walk. August 30 The third space shuttle, Discovery, is launched. October Kathryn Sullivan becomes the first American woman to walk in space. 1985 October 3 Atlantis, the fourth space shuttle, is launched. 1986 January 28 Challenger explodes 73 seconds after liftoff (pictured below), killing its crew of seven. The cause of the explosion is found to be an O-ring failure in the right solid rocket booster. 1990 August 24 The shuttle Discovery carries the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit. 1992 May 7 Launch of the Endeavour. September 12 Mae Jemison becomes the first African-American woman in space. 1993 December The space shuttle Endeavour makes the first servicing mission of the Hubble Space Telescope. 1994 February 3 Sergei Krikalev becomes the first Russian to fly on a space shuttle. 1995 February 2 Eileen Collins becomes the first female shuttle pilot. 1998 October 29 John Glenn becomes the oldest man in space. 1999 July 23 Eileen Collins becomes the first female shuttle commander. 2003 February 1 On its 28th flight, the space shuttle Columbia (above) explodes on re-entry, killing its crew of seven, including the first Israeli astronaut. A seven-month investigation concludes the explosion was the result of damage sustained during launch, when a small piece of insulation broke off the external tank and hit the left wing, damaging the shuttle's thermal protection system. 2011 February 24 Discovery takes its 35th and final flight to deliver supplies to the International Space Station. July 8 Space shuttle Atlantis lifts off on the final flight of shuttle program STS-135, on a 12-day mission to the International Space Station. The astronauts are Commander Chris Ferguson, pilot Doug Hurley, and mission specialists Sandy Magnus and Rex Walheim (pictured top). SOURCES: US NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION, NASA, NPR US SHUTTLE PROGRAM THE FINAL TALLY Flights 134 Fatalities 14 Cost $US113.7 billion Total cargo 1,360,000kg Altitude of orbit 185km-643km Approximate speed 2800km/h Total distance travelled 864,400,000km COLUMBIA 28 flights Apr 12, 1981 - Jan 16, 2003 Destroyed CHALLENGER 10 flights Apr 4, 1983 - Jan 28, 1986 Destroyed DISCOVERY 39 flights Aug 30, 1984 - Feb 24, 2011 ATLANTIS 32 flights Oct 3, 1985 - July 9, 2011 ENDEAVOUR 25 flights May 7, 1992 - May 16, 2011

Impacts- Unilateralism

US action could result in conflict if the UN is not involved

Loshchinin 10 (Russian Ambassador to the United Nations. “STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR VALERY LOSHCHININ, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA, AT THE SEMINAR: PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE.” Geneva, 11 November 2010. <http://www.geneva.mid.ru/speeches/65.html>.)

From the outset allow me, as representative of the first space-faring nation, to welcome Mr. Prunariu here in Geneva. You might all know that he was the first, and so far is the only, Romanian to participate in a manned flight in near outer space as part of a joint Soviet-Romanian crew in May 1981. This promotion to the current high post as the Head of the UN Committee on Outer Space is undoubtedly due to his dedication to the cause and vast experience in the outer space issues, besides it is recognition of the diplomatic skills of the former Ambassador of Romania to Russia. Activities in outer space are now part of mankind’s everyday life. People no longer can exist without telecommunications, navigation and the information provided by remote sensing based on space system. Manned flights by cosmonauts and astronauts in near space are now commonplace. Space exploration has greatly accelerated scientific and technological progress. Space research has given life to new branches of modern science and technology, and has stimulated the development of existing ones. Russia stand out by right as a pioneer in space exploration: on October 1957 it was the first country in the world to place an artificial satellite into orbit – Sputnik I. Next year, in April 2011, we shall celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first maned fly in outer space. The names of Konsantin Tsiolkovskiy (founding father of theoretical astronautics), Sergey Korolev (chief designer of the first space launch vehicles) and Yury Gagarin (the first man in outer space on 12 April 1961) are known the world over. Globalization and the rapid development of science and technology have made their impact on outer space matters. The number of space powers and especially users of outer space had increased dramatically. The global economy is becoming more and more dependant on space-based assets. Today outer space is indispensable for the functioning of civilization and it is with this in mind that we see an urgent need to keep it peaceful and to prevent an arms race there. We believe that weaponization of outer space could trigger unpredictable consequences for the international community - no less serious than the onset of the nuclear era. That is the reason why Russia wants to be a pioneer in space one more time – this time to prevent its weaponization. In 2004 Russia announced that it will not be the first to deploy weapons in outer space. Guided by this goal at the plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament on February 12, 2008 H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, addressed the Conference on Disarmament and officially introduced the draft of the Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, and of the Threat or Use of Force Against Outer Space Objects (the PPW Treaty), prepared jointly by Russia and China, for consideration by the Conference. Modern international space law does not prohibit deployment in outer space of weapons which are not weapons of mass destruction. However, such weapons, if deployed in space, would have a global reach, high readiness and capability for engagement not only against space objects to render them inoperative, but also against critical infrastructure on Earth. Such weapons would be ready for first use, generate suspicion and tensions among states and would inevitably degrade the climate of mutual trust and cooperation in space exploration. Besides, deployment of weapons in outer space by one state will inevitably result in a chain reaction and then in a new spiral in the arms race both in space and here on Earth. The objective of the draft Treaty is to prohibit the placement of weapons of any kind in outer space, and the use or threat of use of force against space objects. The Treaty envisages to eliminate existing gaps in international space law, create conditions for further peaceful exploration and use of outer space, preserve costly outer space assets, such as commercial satellites, and strengthen international security and arms control regimes. I would sum up in 5 main points, why we need the PPWT: First, because without such a treaty it would be difficult to predict the development of the strategic situation in outer space and on Earth due to the global operating range of space weapons. It would be impossible to claim that space weapons are “not targeted” at a given nation. Moreover, space weapons could enable states that have deployed them to discreetly tamper with outer space objects and disable them. Second, because the international situation would be seriously destabilized due to a possibility of an unexpected, sudden use of space weapons. This alone could provoke preemptive acts against space weapons and, consequently, the spiral of a new arms race. Third, because space weapons, unlike weapons of mass destruction, may be applied selectively and discriminately, they could become first-strike, real-use weapons. Fourth, because the placement of weapons in outer space would arouse suspicions and tension in international relations and destroy the current climate of mutual confidence and cooperation in exploration of outer space. Fifth, because attaining monopoly of space weapons would be an illusionary goal. All kind of symmetrical and assymetrical responses would inevitably follow from all major stakeholders in outer space activities, which, in substance, would constitute a new arms race, i.e. exactly what we should be trying to avoid. The draft Treaty provides some basic definitions which could be useful for the clarification of the specific scope of the Treaty. A special verification protocol can supplement the treaty at a later stage or the PPWT verification mechanism may be substituted by a set of confidence building measures. Our objective was to give a general idea what we mean. We are open to consult and negotiate the final formulations of the draft with all our partners. The CD has been discussing and developing basic element of the Treaty for the last several years. We have not heard any substantive and convincing arguments against it. The overwhelming majority of our partners reacted positively to our draft. Many states are looking forward to a substantive work on this issue at the CD. We believe that such discussion will allow us to develop necessary interaction with the Vienna based UN Committee on Peaceful uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) on the issues of mutual interests or concerns. The current 65th session of the UN General Assembly shows that we are close but not yet achieved consensus on PAROS. At the same time there is a growing recognition that transparency and confidence-building measures (TCBMs) are “ripe” or even “over ripe” for action. In the context of international security the role of TCBM’s, among other things, is to help prevent outer space to become a new sphere of confrontation, to avert a new arms race and to create conditions for establishing a predictable strategic situation in outer space, the security of outer space activities and the protection of space assets. Multilateral character of TCBMs would substantially increase their practical value. Some work has been done in this field. Relevant proposals were introduced by States, including several proposals in connection with UN GA resolutions 61/75, 62/43, 63/68 and 64/49. The aggregate list of TCBMs, not being exhaustive, could comprise several categories: Measures aimed at enhancing the transparency of outer space programmes; Measures aimed at expanding the information available on outer space objects in orbit; Measures related to the rules of conduct for outer space activities. Such measures may be carried out in various ways, including the exchange of information, familiarization visits, notifications, consultations and thematic workshops. In order to conduct a more in-depth study of issues relating to TCBMs and the preparation of recommendations for further work in this area Russia and China together with more that 60 co-sponsoring States including collective co-sponsorship by all EU Member States, have introduced at the 65th session of the UN GA a draft resolution calling for the establishment of a United Nations group of governmental experts with the appropriate mandate in 2012. This draft was supported at the First Committee nearly by consensus. We regret that the United States was the only country to abstain and we express hope that our colleagues will review their position on this important issue specifically because the work of the group of governmental experts will provide practical recommendations on how to improve security and predictability in outer space activities.

AT: Permutation Do Both

1. The permutation still links to the Net Benefit. It will still be seen as the US acting separately from the United Nations on a new project.

The US Acknowledges the Success of the UN in Space

United Nations 04. (United Nations. Fifty-ninth General Assembly: Fourth Committee. 9th Meeting (AM). “Benefits from space exploration must be shared: among all nations, fourth committee is told. Developing Countries Said to Need Help to Take Full Advantage.” 10/13/2004. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/gaspd291.doc.htm>)

Background. The Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization) this morning continued its consideration of the peaceful uses of outer space. (For background information, see Press Release GA/SPD/289 of 11 October.) Statements. KENNETH HODGKINS (United States) paid tribute to the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space over the past four decades. In the course of 2004, multi-year work plans, action teams and reports by other groups had formed a flexible approach that had proven to be an effective means of implementing the UNISPACE III conference recommendations and addressing a wide range of topics, including nuclear power sources in space and space-system-based telemedicine. He expressed satisfaction that coordination in solar-terrestrial physics would be considered again at the 2005 conference, since the effect of solar activities and space weather phenomena on daily life and the environment were becoming more apparent. Regarding space debris, he said that the fastest way to limit its growth was to implement the guidelines for orbital debris mitigation. Among legal issues, he was pleased that the relevant Subcommittee would continue to consider the Space Assets Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment formulated by the United Nations International Institute for the Unification of Private Law. This would facilitate the provision of commercial financing for space activities. Work by that Subcommittee on the registration of space objects was also important. Overall, he was especially encouraged by the substantial progress that had been made in considering the spin-off benefits of space exploration, on strengthening the role of the outer space committee in ensuring that space was maintained for peaceful purposes, and showing how space activities could enrich daily life. RODNEY LOPEZ (Cuba) said that remote sensing and other space technologies had become indispensable in many areas of life. The last meeting of the outer space committee in Vienna highlighted, in particular, the importance of facilitating the access of developing countries to satellite image information at a reasonable cost and the use of the Internet for the mitigation of natural disasters. For those purposes and others, the space committee should be strengthened. Space was the common domain of humanity, he said, and should be used only for peaceful endeavours toward the betterment of all. Attention should be paid to minimizing the consequences of space debris and the collision of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources. It was also crucial to prevent an arms race in outer space. For that purpose, new legal mechanisms should be developed. Telemedicine, near-Earth objects, enhancement of agriculture and solar-Earth physics were some of the particularly promising areas of space activity for the good of all of humanity. The costs of small satellites for communications and monitoring should be reduced so that developing countries could better make use of their benefits.

AT: Perm Do CP

This perm is severing from the aff plan: the United Nations is a unilateral body that has it’s own programs and committees. UN actions contain the input of all member countries while the plan is uniquely the USfg agencies and programs. They sever out of both the immediacy and unilateral nature of the plan

* 1. Fairness: They steal all the neg offense, negative would lose all of the ability to run counter plans, a key part of policy debate
  2. Education: We don’t learn about the intricacies of the space topic unless the aff is forced to defend the plan. We also use education on different actors.
  3. Forces better plan writing: If they aff is forced to defend their plan in whole then they will write better plan text to solve problems.
  4. Key to neg ground: Agent CP are an important part of the negative strategy, allowing severence permutations destroys their utility.
  5. This is a reason to reject both the permutation and the team for destroying education and stealing the neg ground.

AT: Consult Actor CPs Illegitimate

Counter Interpretation: The negative team can propose a counter plan where there is substantial topic specific literature available on the actor.

Reasons to prefer:

A. Topic Specific Education: We get to learn about the different actors in space and how they relate to each other. This is critical to test the necessity of using the United States federal government and an important tool for discussing their policies and programs

B. Ground: Agent CPs are run on every topic, they have developed into a strategy for the negative to propose alternatives to the actions proposed by the plan and are a key test of the affirmative.

C. Predictability: The UN has many different committees, organizations, and treaties related to space. It is an important international actor in many topics and there is huge amounts of literature available.

D. Limits: Our interpretation adequately limits the topic through excluding actors that don’t have space involvement and are unpredictable

Reject the argument not the team. There is not in round abuse and you should not vote on potential abuse.

\*\*\*AFF ANSWERS\*\*\*

Permutations

Perm: Do both

Perm: Do CP- The United States in an actor within the UN so the cp is normal means

Perm Solvency

The US and UN work together on space policy

**Space Foundation 6/8.** (Space Foundation. “Space Foundation Participates in United Nations COPUOS. 54th Session is Held in Vienna. “ Jume 8, 2011. http://www.spacefoundation.org/news/story.php?id=1133)

The Space Foundation participated in the 54th Session of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) held June 1-10 at the UN's Vienna, Austria, International Center. in its role as a non-governmental organization, the Space Foundation serves as a private sector advisor to the United States delegation. The session marked the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Committee and a number of commemorative activities celebrated the anniversary, including a special segment of the agenda featuring statements from the UN secretary general, the director general of the UN office in Vienna, the chairman of COPUOS and astronauts and cosmonauts who had served on the International Space Station.

US Supports the UN Now

Current Obama Admin Policy is moving away from Unilateral Action in Space, supporting the UN

Kelly 10 (Jim Kelly. “Support for UN Governance of Space Explains NASA Development Agenda.” July 7, 2010. President of Solidarity Center for Law and Justice, P.C., a public interest civil and human rights law firm based in Atlanta, Georgia. <http://www.globalgovernancewatch.org/spotlight_on_sovereignty/support-for-un-governance-of-space-explains-nasa-development-agenda>)

Apparently, the Obama administration has embraced the Moon Agreement’s vision for using the moon and other celestial bodies exclusively for peaceful purposes and the UN’s vision for the global governance of outer space for development purposes. An article in the June 27, 2010 edition of The Wall Street Journal, titled “U.S. Seeks Global Cooperation in Outer Space,” explains that the Obama administration’s new policy calls for “significantly greater international cooperation in outer space, covering a wide range of civilian and military programs.” Also, according to remarks made by NASA Administrator Bolden in a July 1, 2010 interview with the Middle Eastern news network al-Jazeera, President Obama has charged him with three things: 1. To help re-inspire children to want to get into science and math; 2. To expand NASA’s international relationships; and 3. “Perhaps foremost, to find a way to reach out to the Muslim world and engage much more with dominantly Muslim nations to help them feel good about their historic contribution to science, math, and engineering.” On July 6, 2010, White House and NASA spokesmen defended Administrator Bolden’s remark about President Obama’s directive that NASA prioritize outreach to the Muslim world; however, they did so in a manner that emphasized that NASA’s key objective was to collaborate with other nations in the pursuit of NASA’s core mission of space exploration. In truth, the objective of the Administration and NASA in collaborating with Muslim-majority countries is to join forces for an expansion of the UN’s role in the governance of outer space, with particular emphasis on shifting the focus from national space exploration to international economic and social development. Perhaps this is all that is left to a financially-strapped, deficit-burdened nation that, in 1961, listened to and heeded President John F. Kennedy’s call for a “great new American enterprise,” pursuant to which this nation would “take a clearly leading role in space achievement, which in many ways may hold the key to our future on earth.” Meanwhile, an article in the April 14, 2010 edition of The Wall Street Journal, titled “China Sets Ambitious Space Goals,” reports that “China’s manned space program aims to leapfrog the U.S. by deploying advanced spacecraft and in-orbit refueling systems as early as 2016, when American astronauts still may be relying on rides on Russian spaceships.”

AT: Net Benefit- Multilateralism

Non-Unique: The US is going to continue to explore space

Toohey 11 (PAUL TOOHEY. “For the Americans, the final frontier lies well beyond the moon The new space race.” Sunday Mail (South Australia) May 22, 2011 Sunday 1 - State Edition. SECTION: FEATURES; LENGTH: 1783 words. LexisNexis.)

The iconic space shuttle is near the end of its life, but exploration beyond our planet is entering an exciting new phase. PAUL TOOHEY reports. IT'S been 42 years since Apollo 11 made a 384,000km journey to the moon, where Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin took short strolls, planted an American flag and then returned safely to Earth. Since then we've had astronauts hanging out at the International Space Station, just 400km from the Earth's surface. In context, that's about the distance from Adelaide to Whyalla. None of the great medical cures promised has emerged from the labs of the ISS. In fact, the major achievement of the ISS has been the miracle of its own construction. The space shuttle Endeavour is currently on a 16-day mission to the ISS, delivering an Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer, which will track cosmic rays in the hope of revealing an invisible universe. It will be followed by the shuttle Atlantis nest month, which, like a weary old truck, will deliver spare parts and supplies to the ISS. And then the space shuttle program, after 135 launches, closes forever. Why then, is the American scientific community as excited about space exploration as it has been in decades? President Barack Obama has asked NASA and other agencies to pursue a much more profound space vision than it has to date. He wants them to scout Mars, probe the sun's atmosphere, build a better telescope than Hubble, visit asteroids and find new methods of propulsion to get humans into deep-space. While discretionary spending on most US Government programs has been frozen, Obama last year made for NASA a rare exception and gave them an increase. The space station as well looks set to take a key future role, but it's been a long slog for America to decide what it wants from space If space exploration is about political will and capturing the public imagination, both were lost in two savage events: the first in 1986, when the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds into its flight, and then the final nail in the coffin, in 2003, when the Columbia disintegrated upon re-entry to the Earth's atmosphere.

AT: Net Benefit- Multilateralism (2)

US is still a global leader in space, we are just retooling

Klotz 7/5 (Irene Klotz, Reuters Staff Writer. “NASA shuttles' end stirs doubts about U.S. space program.” 7/5/11. <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/space/stories/nasa-shuttles-end-stirs-doubts-about-us-space-program>)

The White House and NASA's leaders have insisted, however, that America still has a bright future in space. NASA is just retooling, officials have said, while adding that the U.S. space agency now plans to use some of the shuttle's budget to develop spaceships that can travel beyond the space station's 220-mile-high orbit, where the shuttles cannot go. "When I hear people say or listen to media reports that the final shuttle flight marks the end of U.S. human space flight, I have to say ... these folks must be living on another planet," NASA administrator Charlie Bolden said last week at a National Press Club luncheon. Scraping the shuttle also enables NASA to maintain the space station through at least 2020 — five years beyond original budget projections, officials say.

NASA is unilateral; they have substantial projects working with other nations

Klotz 7/5 (Irene Klotz, Reuters Staff Writer. “NASA shuttles' end stirs doubts about U.S. space program.” 7/5/11. <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/space/stories/nasa-shuttles-end-stirs-doubts-about-us-space-program>)

NASA had been planning to return to the moon under a program called Constellation, but that was quashed due to funding shortfalls. The Obama administration instead called for a flexible approach to exploration that includes visits to an asteroid and eventually a human mission to Mars. Congress is mired in debates about what type of rocket to build and how much shuttle legacy hardware should be included. NASA points to the space station, a $100 billion project of 16 nations that was assembled in orbit over the past 11 years, largely by space shuttle crews, as a major achievement. But with construction complete, NASA wants to turn over station crew ferry flights to private companies, even though none are expected to be ready to fly until around 2015. In the meantime, the United States will pay Russia to fly its astronauts, at a cost of more than $50 million a seat. Critics say launch-ready spaceships are a critical component of human space flight. Without that, the fear is that Russia, increasingly, or China and even Europe may step in to fill the void.

AT: Net Ben- Turn

The only way to keep other countries out of a space race is to keep US space leadership

Klotz 7/5 (Irene Klotz, Reuters Staff Writer. “NASA shuttles' end stirs doubts about U.S. space program.” 7/5/11. <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/space/stories/nasa-shuttles-end-stirs-doubts-about-us-space-program>)

Critics say launch-ready spaceships are a critical component of human space flight. Without that, the fear is that Russia, increasingly, or China and even Europe may step in to fill the void. “We're basically decimating the NASA human spaceflight program," said seven-time shuttle flier Jerry Ross. "The only thing we're going to have left in town is the station and it's a totally different animal from the shuttle." That sentiment is echoed by several Apollo-era luminaries, including the normally reticent Neil Armstrong, the Apollo 11 commander who 42 years ago was the first person to set foot on the moon. Armstrong and colleagues Gene Cernan, commander of the final U.S. moon mission in 1972 and Jim Lovell, commander of the nearly fatal Apollo 13 flight, publicly decried the state of the U.S. space program in a widely distributed column. "NASA's human spaceflight program is in substantial disarray with no clear-cut mission in the offing," the astronauts wrote recently. "After a half-century of remarkable progress, a coherent plan for maintaining America's leadership in space exploration is no longer apparent."

US No Solvency

UN can’t Solve and the US will not give up leadership in space

Washinton Times 10 (“The spaced-out U.N.; Earth to Turtle Bay: The aliens aren't coming.” September 30, 2010 Thursday. BYLINE: THE WASHINGTON TIMES. LexisNexis.)

News spread at light speed this week that the United Nations appointed an official greeter for aliens visiting Earth. Malaysian astrophysicist Mazlan Othman, head of the U.N. Office for Outer Space Affairs, was given the task of shaking the hands, claws, tentacles, antennae or other appendages (if any) of extraterrestrials who decide to drop in. With world peace and the global economy limping along on vapors, this appointment of an ambassador to aliens proves once again that the international body's priorities are lost in space. Then again, perhaps this outreach to the final frontier isn't all bad if it distracts U.N. space cadets from some of their misguided missions on this planet. Ms. Othman said if and when alien life was contacted, "We need to give a coordinated response," and that the United Nations was the preferred "coordination method." Making official contact with E.T., however, goes beyond the U.N. mandate. The United Nations charter states clearly that the organization's purpose is to "maintain international peace and security" and "achieve international cooperation in solving international problems." It says nothing about extraterrestrial security or cooperation. The U.N. is charged with "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights," but the charter is mute on the status of alien rights. The body seeks to promote "fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion," but callously makes no claims whatsoever about planet-of-origin. It's obviously not in the interests of the United States to cede the authority to meet separately with alien plenipotentiaries. America potentially could gain significant advantages by forming unilateral friendships with aliens and could help them better understand planet Earth from an American point of view. We doubt President Obama

would pass up the chance to make history as the first black president meeting the first little green men. Mr. Obama surely would rush to extend the hand of friendship, hope and change to the aliens, trusting that their disintegration rays will be on safety. There are also questions of jurisdiction that will need to be settled. For example, if the aliens landed in Arizona, would the federal government even acknowledge they had arrived? If they committed crimes and were taken into custody, would the Justice Department file discrimination charges? Furthermore, it is premature to appoint any human representative without knowing what form the aliens might take, how they communicate or with whom they would want to interact. For all we know, they might want to make first contact with the king of the dolphins Late reports indicated that the United Nations might not actually be seeking to expand its mandate beyond the stratosphere. But the fact that the story was so readily accepted underscores the reputation of the world body as a center for triviality and bureaucratic excess. The matter remains open who will be the first person to greet the aliens once they arrive, though it's possible they already walk among us. Darth Vader would fit in pretty well with other colleagues from the Dark Side who sit on the U.N. Human Rights Council, which includes representatives from such liberty-loving places as Cuba, China, Libya and Saudi Arabia. This all raises the question as to who greeted Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad when he arrived on Earth from his planet far, far away.

Actor Consult CPs are Illegitimate

Interpretation: The negative can use an actor within the United States federal government.

Violation: They read a counter plan that presents the plan to the United Nations committee

Reasons to prefer:

Limits: allowing counterplans that replace consult the actor explodes the research burden for the affirmative. They could pick any actor world wide including governments and private actors. There is no way we could prepare for the infinite amount of counterplans that would steal our ground.

Fairness: steals the aff ground through advantages

Education: they destroy our education because instead of debating about space we are taking about other actors.

This is a voter for education and competitive equity.